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MEMORANDUM

Date: August 11, 2016

From: Attorney General William H. Sorrell

Re: Non-enforcement of Act 120 (GE Food Labeling Law)

With the enactment of federal legislation (S.764) on July 29, 2016, which establishes a “National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard,” the Vermont Attorney General will no longer be enforcing Act 120, Vermont’s law requiring the labeling of food produced with genetic engineering. The federal law calls for the U.S. Department of Agriculture to “establish a national mandatory bioengineered food disclosure standard” and prohibits any state from “continu[ing] in effect as to any food or seed in interstate commerce any requirement relating to the labeling of whether a food . . . or seed is genetically engineered.” In response to this legislation, the Attorney General’s Office has determined that it will no longer enforce Act 120.